

URBAN DISTRICT OF TETTENHALL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For 1948.

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**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL
AUTHORITY.**

Medical Officer of Health:

F. B. MACKENZIE, D.S.O., M.C., M.A., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

E. BARNES, M.S.I.A.

Health Visitor:

W. G. WICKS, S.R.N., S.C.M., A.R.SAN.I.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1948.

Area: 2,503 acres.

Population: 7,492 (estimated mid-year 1948): 5,967 (census 1931).

Number of inhabited houses: 2,411.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £211.

Rateable Value: £53,384.

General Rate: 15/-.

Birth Rate: 18.2.

Death Rate: 10.1.

Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 births: 7.3.

Total Deaths from Diarrhoea: Nil.

Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis: 1.

Deaths from other Tuberculous Diseases: Nil.

Tuberculosis Death Rate—Pulmonary: 0.13.

Tuberculosis Death Rate—Non-Pulmonary: Nil.

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT FOR 1948.

**To the Chairman and Members of Tettenhall
Urban District Council.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 3/49 I present my Annual Report for 1948, incorporating that of your Sanitary Inspector.

The advent of the National Health Service Act, 1946, which became operative on the 5th July, 1948, gave signal importance to the year in that it has introduced what it is hoped will ensure a comprehensive Health Service for the nation. It is such an all-embracing measure that a considerable amount of time must elapse before reaching maximum efficiency in providing all the services for which it legislates.

Part III. of the Act is the part concerned with local health services, but as the Local Health Authority responsible for the implementation of the various services is the County Council, it is outside my province to report on the actual working and progress made in the course of the year in the establishment of the services provided for in the relevant sections of Part III.

As Medical Officer of Health of your Urban District it is of course within my province to report on matters and aspects of public health and preventive medicine as affecting your local area. Such matters are:—

- (a) Vital Statistics as affecting the Area.
- (b) Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.
 Water Supply.
 Drainage and Sewerage.
- (c) Housing.
- (d) Meat and other Foods.—Inspection and Supervision.
- (e) Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other diseases.
- (f) General Sanitary Inspection Work.

The birth rate for the year shows a decrease on last year, being 18.2 as against 22.6, but is higher than the rate of England and Wales 17.9, which latter rate is also a decrease on the 1947 when it was 20.5.

The death rate of 10.1 is lower than that of last year when it was 12.8 and is comparable with that of the country as a whole —10.8, which latter rate for England and Wales is also lower than that of 1947, when it was 12.

Out of a total of 76 deaths 66 occurred above sixty years of age, and placing those in age groups we find the following distribution:—

60 to 70 years ...	...	...	13
70 to 80 years ...	...	...	37
80 to 90 years ...	...	...	14
90 and over ...	...	...	2

The infantile mortality rate of 7.4 per 1,000 births of children who died before reaching the age of one year is a phenomenal decrease on that of last year when it was 30.8 and is the lowest rate recorded in your urban district since 1934, when it was nil. The rate for the district would appear to oscillate strongly from year to year. The actual number of deaths under one year of age was 1 as against 5 last year. The rate for England and Wales as a whole was 34, which rate is very much lower than that of 1947, when it was 41. This national infantile mortality rate of 34 is the lowest ever recorded and much of the credit for this remarkable reduction since 1930, when the rate was 60, can certainly be assigned to infant welfare clinics and domiciliary services and to the work of health visitors.

There were no maternal deaths.

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified was 4 as against 3 last year and the number of deaths was 1 as against 2 last year, giving a death rate of 0.13 as against 0.28 in 1947. The rate of England and Wales was 0.51.

In respect of infectious disease there was a marked increase in the incidence of Whooping Cough. Scarlet Fever, although of a very mild type, also continued to prevail. Measles showed a considerable reduction on last year. I thank the local medical practitioners for their co-operation in giving notification of infectious disease.

Most valuable service continues to be given by the Local Detachment of the British Red Cross Society in the nature of nursing assistance. Also among their activities during the year was the assistance given to the maintenance of a Blood Bank, 70 persons having offered themselves as donors. This response by local residents is to be highly commended.

Close and efficient supervision of the sanitary circumstances of the district has been given by your Sanitary Inspector and he has given meticulous care to recording statistical information for me relevant to the health of the district.

Personally I would convey to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committees my appreciation of the help and support they have given me throughout the year.

To your Clerk, your Surveyor, and all other colleagues, administrative and clerical, I would also express appreciation of their co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F. B. MACKENZIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1949.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births	∫ Legitimate	129	69	60	∫ Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) 18.2.
	∖ Illegitimate	7	2	5	
Still Births	∫ Legitimate	4	3	1	∫ Rate (per 1,000 total births) 35.5.
	∖ Illegitimate	1	1	—	
Deaths	... ..	76			Rate (per 1,000 population) 10.1.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes: Nil.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age (per 1,000 live births):

Legitimate	...	7.4
Illegitimate	...	0.0

Deaths from Cancer: 9.

„ „ Measles (all ages): Nil.

„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages): Nil.

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age): Nil.

BIRTH RATES.

Year	TETTENHALL.		England and Wales. Birth Rate.
	No. of Births.	Birth Rate.	
1939	109	16.3	15.0
1940	112	16.2	14.6
1941	112	15.3	14.2
1942	118	17.0	15.8
1943	131	19.2	16.5
1944	135	19.7	17.6
1945	124	18.3	16.1
1946	122	17.3	19.1
1947	162	22.6	20.5
1948	136	18.2	17.9

DEATH RATES.

Year	TETTENHALL.		England and Wales. Death Rate.
	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.	
1939	68	10.2	12.1
1940	87	12.6	14.3
1941	89	12.2	12.9
1942	71	10.2	11.6
1943	76	11.2	12.1
1944	67	9.8	11.6
1945	71	10.5	11.4
1946	101	14.3	11.5
1947	92	12.8	12.0
1948	76	10.1	10.8

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING YEAR 1948.

Causes of Death.						M.	F.
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	—	—
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
5	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
6	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	—
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	—	—
8	Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—
9	Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	—
10	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
11	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
12	Acute Inf. Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
13	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus and Uterus	...	...	...	...	—	—
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	1
15	Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	...	—	3
16	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	2	2
17	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	—
18	Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	...	3	6
19	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	14	10
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	...	...	...	...	—	1
21	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
22	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1	—
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—
24	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	2	—
25	Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	—	—
26	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
27	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	1
28	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	2	2
29	Puerperal and Post-Abortion Sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	—
30	Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	—	—
31	Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	—	—
32	Congenital Malformation, Birth Injuries and Infantile Diseases	...	...	...	...	—	1
33	Suicide	...	...	...	...	2	—
34	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	—	—
35	Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	...	1	1
36	All Other Causes	...	...	...	...	8	9
						39	37
Deaths of Infants under 1 year—Total						—	1
Legitimate						—	1
Illegitimate						—	—

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1948.

Nett Deaths from causes stated at various ages under one year of age.

Cause of Death.	Under one week.	1 to 2 weeks.	2 to 3 weeks.	3 to 4 weeks.	Total under one month.	1 to 3 months.	3 to 6 months.	6 to 9 months.	9 to 12 months.	Total Deaths under one year.
Suffocation by Aspiration of Liquor Amnii	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES.

Year	TETTENHALL			England and Wales.
	Births	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 births	Rate per 1,000 births
1939	109	2	18.3	50
1940	112	5	44.6	55
1941	112	4	34.0	59
1942	118	2	17.0	49
1943	131	4	30.5	49
1944	135	2	14.8	46
1945	124	4	32.2	46
1946	122	6	49.1	43
1947	162	5	30.8	41
1948	136	1	7.4	34

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The Medical Officer of Health is one of the County Assistant Medical Officers of Health, who is posted for part-time duty with your local Urban District Council.

The Sanitary Inspector is a full-time officer, and a fully qualified Meat and Foods Inspector.

The Health Visitor is under the direction of the Local Health Authority.

In accordance with Part III. of the new National Health Service Act, Health Services are provided by the Local Health Authority, namely, the County Council, the organisation and administration being in the hands of the County Medical Officer of Health.

With a view to ensuring that the local needs of your Urban District will be borne in mind, an Area Committee has been constituted and an Area Medical Officer appointed to assist the County Medical Officer of Health in the administration of the Health Services in your area.

The Health Services which Part III. of the Act requires to be provided are:—

- (a) Health Centres.
- (b) Care of Mothers and young children.
- (c) Midwifery.
- (d) Health Visiting.
- (e) Home Nursing.
- (f) Vaccination and Immunisation.
- (g) Ambulance Service.
- (h) Prevention of illness, care and after care.
- (i) Domestic Help.

With the exception of the provision of Health Centres, all the required services are being provided in your area.

As regards General Hospital and Specialist Services, their administration is vested in the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

The Hospitals and Departments available, and easily accessible to your Area, are those of Wolverhampton, Dudley and Birmingham.

Tuberculosis.

Dispensaries are situated at Wolverhampton and Dudley and various Sanatoria are available.

Maternity Cases are provided for by

- (a) Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home.
- (b) Wordsley Hospital.

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological and Bacteriological examinations and Chemical analyses are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

Tettenhall Urban District is within the statutory limits of the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking.

I am indebted to Mr. B. L. McMillan, B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst. W.E., Water Engineer, for the following report:—

“The water supply to your area is derived from a number of sources of supply, and the proportions from each source vary from time to time depending on the part of the district and varying circumstances.

Below I have included the full number of analyses of raw water at the sources of supply, and also after treatment where necessary. The latter analyses refer both to water taken at the source of supply and in the course of distribution.

- (i) The water supply in your area has been satisfactory both (a) in quality, and (b) in quantity.
- (ii) The following is a summary of the Bacteriological examinations of water, after treatment where necessary, sampled at the sources going into supply or in the course of distribution.

Number of Samples.

Containing presumptive B. Coli-aerogenes per 100 c.c.

Total Taken	Nil organisms	1 to 2 organisms	3 to 10 organisms	Over 10 organisms
415	372	28	8	7

Of the 43 samples which gave a presumptive coliform reaction none were found to be Faecal Coli Type 1.

In addition to the above, 105 bacteriological analyses were made of water at source of supply before treatment, and 6 samples examined from reservoirs.

36 chemical analyses were made of water in the course of distribution and 11 chemical analyses of raw water before treatment. Results were satisfactory.

- (iii) The water supplied by the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking does not have a plumbo-solvent action.
- (iv) Subsequent to treatment where necessary at the Supply Works there has been no known contamination of the water going into supply.
- (v) Of the houses in the district 2,398 obtain their water direct from the mains, 11 from standpipes and only two houses have a well supply.

The population supplied from mains within the district is 7,486.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

I am indebted to your Surveyor, Mr. J. W. Mason, M.I.Mun.E., M.T.P.I., for the following report:—

Blackbrook Sewage Farm.

“The farm has been maintained in good condition during the past year. Samples of water from the Black Brook have been submitted regularly to the County Analyst for reports, which have been presented to the monthly meeting of the Highways and Drainage Committee.

In view of the anticipated large increase of population due to development within the area by the Wolverhampton Corporation, the Council's Consultants, Messrs. Willcox, Raikes & Marshall have been asked to prepare a report on the sewage farm with a view to its modernisation.

Public Cleansing.

Regular collection of house refuse has been maintained to all houses in the area.

The tip at Compton has been maintained in a satisfactory condition. A further valuable area was added to the tipping space by the Railway Authority allowing the Council to use a small portion of their land adjacent to the railway line.”

Sanitary Accommodation.

The numbers of various types of accommodation at the end of 1948 were as follows:—

W.C's—approximate number	...	...	3,000
W.W.C's—approximate number	...	...	151
Privies or Pail Closets	...	...	8
Cesspools	...	...	50
Ashpits	...	...	—

Three pail closets were converted to modern W.C's by the installation of a private septic tank, filter bed and soak away. This arrangement is working very satisfactorily.

A survey was made to ascertain the number of W.W.C's left within the district and to provide information to the Council for giving financial assistance to owners towards the cost of conversion.

Smoke Abatement.

Although the presence of smoke does not give occasion for serious complaint in your district, nevertheless, the development of a smoke abatement policy is to be advocated on health grounds.

The domestic fire, burning raw coal, has an efficiency of only 20% as well as discharging into the atmosphere myriad particles of soot and tar in the form of smoke.

Soot and tar pollution of the air we breathe is in the main caused by the burning of raw fuel in open firegrates. It is not generally appreciated that soot deposits in country districts can be in the region of 70 tons per square mile per annum. This type of pollution is contributory to fog incidence and is most apparent in the winter months when it cuts off light, sunshine and health-giving ultra violet rays. It is generally recognised that this is one of the greatest contributory factors to the higher incidence of respiratory diseases during those months. This form of pollution is also the cause of much domestic drudgery, additional cleansing and damage to building fabrics and plant life.

The problem of smoke abatement is now receiving the attention of most authorities. Helpful and co-operative action can be given in a district such as Tettenhall by the extended use of solid smokeless fuels, gas and electricity in new housing development, installation of high efficiency open fires and stoves, with the encouragement of the gradual replacement of existing obsolete fuel wasting appliances and the setting up of smokeless zones.

This campaign for smoke abatement needs national support and encouragement but local interest needs to be stimulated to bring this about.

HOUSING.

During the year a survey was made of all the lower rateable value houses in the district to determine the number of unsatisfactory dwellings. It is estimated that 10% to 15% of the lower rateable value houses come under that category.

The state and the age of much of the older property is such that only continued attention to repairs or alternatively complete renovation, often at unreasonable cost, is necessary to meet the requirements of fitness for continued habitation. Many of those houses were brought to the notice of your Health Committee and the appropriate action either in respect of repair or demolition fully considered.

The number of unfit houses for which appropriate action, on a long term policy, under the Housing Acts, is indicated is 221. Of those 112 could be dealt with in three groups as Clearance Areas or under Compulsory Purchase Orders. The remainder composed of small groups of houses in different parts of the district could be dealt with as Individual Unfit houses under Section II. of the Housing Act.

To implement this policy and line of action gradually, it is recommended that a percentage of the new houses erected yearly should be earmarked to replace unfit properties on which action may be taken.

Further to those 221 houses, there are 130 houses which can be graded as of a low standard by reason of their bad arrangement, lack of facilities and general dilapidations.

During the year under review a start was made with some of the worst housing conditions, and official representation under Section II. was made in respect of 16 houses. Of those, 5 orders were confirmed by the Public Health Committee acting for the Council, and 10 were in process of confirmation at the close of the year. An informal undertaking was accepted in respect of 1.

Two unfit houses were demolished, one in compliance with an Order and the other as the result of informal action and agreement with the owner.

Twelve cases of overcrowding were brought to the notice of the Health Committee and referred to the Housing Committee with a recommendation for re-housing.

The number of notices served for repairs and improvements to houses under the Public Health Act was as follows:—

INFORMAL		STATUTORY	
No. of Houses	No. of Defects	No. of Houses	No. of Defects
62	106	28	38

A certain amount of difficulty has been experienced during the year in getting repairs carried out to houses, due in the main to the very high cost of materials and labour with no corresponding proportionate increase in rents received by the owners. In spite of this the essential requirements were met by concentrating on essentials.

Authority was given to issue a certificate under Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions (Amendment) Act, 1933, for repairs to one house.

HOUSE BUILDING PROGRESS.

Your Surveyor has furnished me with the following information:—

Long Lake Housing Estate.

The whole of the houses on this site were completed during the year making a total in all of 114.

Woodhouse Estate.

Commencement was made on the road works on this estate and at the 31st December tenders were being invited for the erection of 84 houses.

Henwood Road.

The remaining four houses on this site were completed.

Sandy Lane

The Council erected under Circular 92/46 three houses in Sandy Lane which have been completed and occupied during the year.

Private Enterprise Housing.

The Ministry of Health intimated that Local Authorities could again resume the issue of building licences on the basis of one house for every four Council houses.

The following schedule indicates the type of general housing progress in the district during 1948. Comparative figures are given for 1947.

	1948.	1947.
Council Housing:—		
Long Lake Estate:		
One bedroom houses	10	—
Three bedroom houses ...	46	32
Four bedroom houses ...	6	4
Henwood Road (three bedroom) ...	4	4
Sandy Lane (three bedroom) ...	3	—
Private Enterprise Housing:—		
New Houses	14	5
Conversion—large houses into flats	14	6
	<hr/> 97 <hr/>	<hr/> 51 <hr/>

During the post-war period a total number of 221 dwellings have been provided in the following categories:—

Local Authority Permanent Houses	125
Temporary Houses	36
Houses by private enterprise	29
Conversions and adaptations	30
Re-building war-damaged houses	1
Total	<hr/> 221 <hr/>

The claims of applicants for houses and allocation have given your Housing Committee much thought to ensure that the most urgent cases received priority.

Your Housing Manager, Mr. W. A. Nicholls, reports as follows:—

During the year under review a total of 71 permanent houses were allocated of which 62 were to applicants living in rooms and 9 to overcrowding cases. In addition 8 aged persons bungalows were completed and let.

The Council now have a total of 312 dwellings under their control comprised of the following:—

Permanent Houses—1919 Scheme	...	...	54
„ „ 1924 „	...	...	82
„ „ 1946 „	...	...	115
Prefabricated Bungalows	...	...	36
Old Aged Persons Bungalows	...	...	10
Flats	...	...	3
Requisitioned Properties	...	...	8
Others	...	...	4
			<hr/> 312 <hr/>

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Meat and Other Foods.

No slaughtering of animals has been carried out in the district, all the meat being brought into the area from the Wolverhampton Abbatoir. The only exception to this is the killing of pigs for private consumption under licence from the Ministry of Food. The number killed was 255. Only portions of 2 pigs were sold to the Ministry of Food for public consumption, and these were killed and examined in Wolverhampton.

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred during the year.

Investigation of a school meal which was thought by the staff to have been the cause of indisposition in seven children proved negative.

Food Premises.

The inspection of all food is carried out at shops and food preparing premises.

The following articles were condemned after voluntary surrender:—

- 5 lbs. of liver.
- 4 tins of meat foods.
- 2 tins of salmon.
- 3 tins of vegetable foods.
- 1 tin of fruit juice.

Regular inspection of all classes of food premises was carried out during the year for the purpose of food inspection and to check the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act. A total of 206 inspections were made.

Notices were served and complied with in respect of three premises and one vehicle. No statutory action was necessary.

Informal action resulted in the improvement of 9 premises.

A survey of the conditions at all the premises within the district was carried out with a view to preparing a pamphlet, for distribution, summarising the requirements of the law relating to food premises and the elementary principles of Food Hygiene.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

There were five slaughterman's licences in force at the 31st December, 1948.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examinations of Food.

The County Council carry out this work at their laboratory at Stafford.

Ministerial Control.

During 1948 legislation was brought into force and the Ministry of Health relinquished some of their responsibilities to the Ministry of Food who are now concerned with the following:—

- (i) Composition and description of food.
- (ii) Food inspection and hygiene.
- (iii) Distribution and heat treatment of milk.
- (iv) Manufacture and distribution of margarine and certain cheese and butter.
- (v) Importation of certain foods.

The Ministry of Health has retained responsibilities in the following:—

- (i) Food poisoning.
- (ii) Ice-cream.
- (iii) Composition of drugs.
- (iv) Disease infected milk, imported milk.
- (v) Slaughterhouses and knackers yards.

It is generally considered that this legislation will considerably help the food trades and lead to an improvement in food hygiene standards.

Ice-Cream.

Samples of all the Ice-cream retailed in the district were submitted regularly during the summer months to the Public Health Laboratory for analysis.

There is only one manufacturer within the district, the major proportion of the supplies being manufactured outside the area.

Close co-operation is carried out between the local authorities when a sample is low graded until improvements have been made in the supply.

As far as is known there would appear to have been no incidence of actual illness or indisposition attributable to the consumption of ice-cream.

Milk and Dairies.

There are only nine dairy farms within the district so it will be appreciated that the milk produced locally is not extensive. The main supply is brought in from the larger pasteurising plants outside the district. One of the producers is Accredited and his supplies are retailed in the area.

The premises, utensils and methods of production have been kept under regular review. A total of 49 inspections were made and conditions have been maintained satisfactorily.

One dairyman discontinued his business during the year leaving only one registered dairyman in the district. Improvements were carried out at the latter premises.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936—46.

The following table gives details of licences in force on the 31st December, 1948.

Designation of Milk.	Producer.	Dealer.	Supple- mentary Licences.	TOTAL
Tuberculin Tested	—	1	6	7
Accredited	1	—	—	1
Pasteurised	—	1	6	7
TOTAL				15

No contraventions of the Orders were found.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the following information regarding samples of food taken in Tettenhall.

Details of Samples of Milk and General Foods taken during 1948.

Article of Food.	Number of Samples.	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Milk	27	27	—
General Foods ...	32	32	—

STREET MILKS.

Samples taken in Tettenhall Urban District during 1948 for Bacteriological and Biological Examinations.

Designation	No. of Samples submitted	No. of Biological Tests	Cleanliness.		Phosphatase.		Containing Tubercle Bacilli
			Satis.	Unsatis.	Pass.	Fail.	
Pasteurised	2	—	2	—	2	—	—
Undesignated	17	12	14	3	—	—	—

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The total number of notified cases of infectious diseases was 110 as against 120 last year.

Measles.

30 cases were notified as against 87 last year. None were admitted to hospital and there were no deaths.

Scarlet Fever.

18 cases were notified as against 19 last year. Four were admitted to hospital. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough.

There was a marked increase in the number of cases of this disease, 54 being notified as against 5 last year. Two were admitted to hospital. There were no deaths.

Diphtheria.

There were no cases of diphtheria notified.

Erysipelas.

There was one case of erysipelas notified during the year.

Anterior Poliomyelitis.

There were no cases of this disease notified during the year.

Acute Pneumonia.

Seven cases were notified.

AGE GROUPS OF INFECTIOUS CASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1948.

Disease	At all ages		Under 1 yr.	1 to 2 yrs.	2 to 3 yrs.	3 to 4 yrs.	4 to 5 yrs.	5 to 10 yrs.	10 to 15 yrs.	15 to 25 yrs.	25 to 45 yrs.	45 to 65 yrs.	65 yrs. and over
	M	F											
Scarlet Fever ...	7	11	—	—	—	1	1	9	4	1	2	—	—
Whooping Cough	21	33	7	11	4	8	6	16	1	—	1	—	—
Measles ...	17	13	2	2	4	5	1	14	—	—	2	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac. Pneumonia	4	3	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Erysipelas ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ant. Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	49	61	10	14	9	15	8	39	5	1	6	2	1

Scabies.

There were no cases brought to notice.

The prevalence of this disease would appear to be very slight and necessitates the provision of no special cleansing facilities, all cases being effectively dealt with privately.

Swabs and Specimens.

Submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service by local practitioners and myself.

Nose and Throat	...	...	...	38
Faeces	...	...	...	2

General Measures.

School notifications of Infectious Disease are carefully scrutinised and prompt use made of them for the purpose of guidance and localisation.

A close study is also made of the Ministry's Weekly Record of Infectious Diseases for any information that may be relative to the district.

The Schools are disinfected when considered desirable.

Terminal disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out in all cases of diphtheria, scarlet fever, tuberculosis, cancer and other cases of long-standing disease. Disinfection is by means of formaldehyde and disinfectant fluid.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Immunisation continues to be actively carried out in the area.

78 children under 5 were immunised and 11 between the ages of 5 and 14.

A reinforcing dose was also given to 95 children.

A central bureau for the purpose of recording immunisation statistics has been established at the office of the Area Medical Officer, Brierley Hill.

Tuberculosis.

The number of new cases notified for the year was 4 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary as against 3 pulmonary in 1947.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 yr.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 4 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 9 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 14 yrs.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 to 19 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 to 24 yrs.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 34 yrs.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 to 44 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 to 54 yrs.	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 to 64 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 yrs. and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	—	—	1	1	—	—	—

Yearly Figures for the Last Decade.

Year.	New Cases.		Deaths.	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
1939	4	—	4	—
1940	2	5	4	1
1941	3	1	2	1
1942	6	—	3	—
1943	2	—	1	—
1944	2	—	2	—
1945	5	4	4	1
1946	3	2	2	1
1947	3	—	2	—
1948	4	1	1	—

GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION WORK.

Factories Act, 1937.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health.

Premises	No. in District	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities (Workshops).	22	47	Nil	Nil
Factories in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authorities (Factories with Mechanical Power).	12	35	Nil	Nil
Total	34	82	—	—

Defects Found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied
—	—	—

Rodent Control.

During 1948 the Ministerial Control for this work passed from the Ministry of Food to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Regular treatment of Council property was carried out during the year. The Council's Tip at Compton has been treated on four occasions with an estimated kill of 450 rats. Gas and poison were used.

Blackbrook Sewage Farm received two treatments with an estimated kill of 74 rats. A 60% test of the sewers was also carried out and this gave a no take result.

Twenty-six private premises were treated with an estimated kill of 144 rats.

Details of inspections by the Sanitary Inspector of dwelling houses and other premises including food premises are given below.

Shops Acts. 1912—1938.

There are 87 shops in the area, and during the year regular inspection was made of records, registers and premises in accordance with the provisions of the Acts. A total of 205 visits were made.

The extension of hours of closing just prior to Xmas was notified in the press in conjunction with adjoining Authorities.

The requirements of the 'Young Persons' Employment Act, 1938, were notified and complied with in respect of one young employee in the district.

No other contraventions were found.

SUMMARY OF ROUTINE INSPECTION WORK.

Details of the inspection work carried out during the year are given in the following table:—

Type of Premises inspected	No. of Inspections
Water, Drainage and Sanitary Services	310
Refuse	144
Rodent Control	130
Repairs to Premises	353
Food Shops and Food Preparing Premises	216
Infectious Disease	41
Cowsheds and Dairies	82
Factories and Shops	77
Miscellaneous	190
TOTAL	1,543

Total number of houses visited under Public Health Acts 556

Total number of houses visited under Housing Acts ... 486

NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR.

Form of Notice	No. Served	Premises	Defects
Informal :			
(a) General Sanitary Defects	89	153	241
Statutory :			
(a) Defects	25	46	62

Through the service of informal and statutory notices a total of 321 improvements to dwelling houses and other premises were effected during the year.

